

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06

OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

AGR-05 AGRE-00 SAM-01 STR-04 L-03 /097 W

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R 241700Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO OECD PARIS 3836

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8640

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD, ECON

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE
(EDRC) REVIEW OF PORTUGAL

REF: OECD PARIS 26861

1. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AND I HAVE, DURING SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS, DISCUSSED REF SUBJECT WITH MINISTER OF ECONOMIC COORDINATION SOUSA GOMES; DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MANUEL BARREIROS MARTINS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY; AND GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF PORTUGAL SILVA LOPES. FORMER TWO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT, BUT CLEARLY HAD LITTLE OR NO APPRECIATION OF IT. SILVA LOPES, HOWEVER, REMARKED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MEETING AND TOOK NOTES ON IT. WE PRESUME HE WILL PRESS FOR A STRONG PORTUGUESE PRESENTATION.

2. DURING THE PAST YEAR, GOP RESISTED MORE EXTENSIVE INVOLVEMENT WITH OECD. THIS ATTITUDE STEMMED FROM ITS FEAR OF A DOMESTIC POLITICAL REACTION AGAINST WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN INTERPRETED TO BE FOREIGN INFRINGEMENT ON PORTUGAL'S DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. THE PRESSURE OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS
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LEMS AND RECENT CHANGE IN THE POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE MAY NOW

MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE GOP TO CONSULT SERIOUSLY WITH THE
OECD.

2. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR JAMES FERRER, JR. IS TENTATIVELY
PLANNING TO ATTEND THE REVIEW SESSION. WILL CONFIRM
DURING NEXT TWO WEEKS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, MEETING AGENDA, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON06583
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760362-0955
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760924/aaaaatwy.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 OECD PARIS 26861
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (EDRC) REVIEW OF PORTUGAL
TAGS: ECON, PO, US, OECD
To: OECD PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006